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DRONFIELD URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

# ANNUAL REPORT

of the

## HEALTH OF DRONFIELD

for

1946.

By JOHN REID GRAHAM, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.  
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.



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# ANNUAL REPORT FOR YEAR 1946.

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Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I herewith present the Annual Report on the health of the Urban District for the year 1946.

While not approaching the phenomenal figures of the previous year the vital statistics are quite satisfactory. In this connection it is emphasized that in dealing with small population figures such as obtain in Dronfield one death or birth extra or vice versa can make quite an appreciable difference in the vital statistics usually expressed in terms of 1000s.

For instance there were 115 births in the U.D. during the year so that 1 infant death makes a difference of 8.6 approximately when expressed in terms of 1000 births.

There have been no epidemics of infectious disease; and no deaths from puerperal causes.

I am,

Your obedient servant,

JOHN R. GRAHAM,

Medical officer of Health.

## STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA

### Birth Rate.

16.50 per 1,000 of the estimated resident population.

16.93 per 1,000 (Live and Still) births.

### Death Rate.

9.18 per 1,000 of the estimated resident population.

### Deaths from Puerperal Causes.

From Sepsis, Nil.

From Other Causes, Nil.

### Death Rate of Infants under one year of age.

All Infants per 1,000 Live Births	...	...	...	52.17
Legitimate Infants per 1,000 Legitimate Live Births...				52.17
Illegitimate Infants per 1,000 Illegitimate Live Births...				Nil.
Deaths from Measles (all ages) <sup>1</sup>	...	...	...	Nil.
Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages)	...	...	...	Nil.
Deaths from Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age)	...	...	...	Nil.

### Births in Dronfield Urban District.

Live Births: Males: Total 61—Legitimate 60, Illegitimate 1.

Females: Total 54—Legitimate 51, Illegitimate 3

Still Births. Males: Total 1—Legitimate 1, Illegitimate nil.

Females: Total 2—Legitimate 2, Illegitimate nil.

### Deaths of Infants under one year of age. 6.

## SOCIAL CONDITIONS.

It is pleasing to report that with the erection of the prefabricated bungalows the housing conditions of many young couples in the district have been improved.

This type of bungalow has had many detractors and certainly the outside appearance is not all that one would wish, but the internal arrangements are good and they have been the means of speedily filling a real need.

The first of the permanent houses was occupied in December, but the abnormal weather held up progress considerably.

It is to be hoped that by the end of 1947, that the worst of the overcrowding cases will have been dealt with. This does not mean to convey that the rehousing problem is finished with; apart from the families who may not be living in badly overcrowded conditions but who still require a house of their own, there are those cases of families living in unfit houses.

When really suitable action will be taken with regard to unfit properties is uncertain, but while it is unwise to prophesy, I venture to suggest that at least five years will elapse before any action on a large scale is possible.

## INFECTIOUS DISEASE.

Again Dronfield has escaped lightly in the incidence of infectious diseases.

No deaths were caused by any of the notifiable diseases.

During the year 9 cases of Scarlet Fever, 2 of Diphtheria and 1 of Measles were notified, the corresponding figures for 1945 being 12, 2 and 124.

There were no cases of Whooping Cough or Enteric Fever.

Disease	Total Number Notified	Cases Admitted to Hospital	Total Deaths
Smallpox ... ..	—	—	—
Scarlet Fever ... ..	9	7	—
Diphtheria ... ..	2	1	—
Enteric Fever ... ..	—	—	—
Puerperal Pyrexia ... ..	—	—	—
Cerebro-Spinal Fever ... ..	—	—	—
Erysipelas ... ..	—	—	—
Polio-myelitis ... ..	—	—	—
Pneumonia ... ..	6	1	—
Ophthalmia Neonatorum ... ..	—	—	—
Encephalitis Lethargica ... ..	—	—	—
Undulant Fever ... ..	—	—	—
Measles ... ..	1	—	—
Whooping Cough ... ..	—	—	—

## TUBERCULOSIS RETURN FOR 1946.

Age Period	New Cases				Deaths			
	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Under 1 year	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1 and over...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5 and over...	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
15 and over...	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
25 and over...	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
35 and over...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
45 and over...	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
55 and over...	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
65 and over...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total	3	1	—	—	1	1	—	—
Cases included above ...	Not Primary				Not Notified			
	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

## DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATIONS.

Number of children (including temporary residents) who completed the full course of immunisation in the Authority's area between 1st January and 31st December, 1946.

Age under 5 years	Age 5 years and over, but under 15.	Total number of children given a secondary or reinforcing injection	Total
59	19	30	108

## OPHTHALMIA NEONATORUM.

There were no cases of Ophthalmia Neonatorum during the year.



**Birth Rates, Civilian Death Rates, Analysis of Mortality for  
the year 1946.**

	England and Wales.	126 C.B.'s. and great Towns including London	148 Smaller Towns Resi- dent Popula- tion 25,000— 50,000 1931 Census.	London Adm. County.	Dronfield U.D.C.
Rates per 1,000 Civilian Population.					
<b>Births:—</b>					
Live ...	19.1	22.2	21.3	21.5	16.50
Still ...	0.53	0.67	0.59	0.54	0.43
<b>Deaths:—</b>					
All causes ...	11.5	12.7	11.7	12.7	9.18
Typhoid and Paratyphoid	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Scarlet Fever	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Whooping Cough	0.02	0.02	0.02	0.02	0.00
Diphtheria ...	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.00
Influenza ...	0.15	0.13	0.14	0.12	0.28
Smallpox ...	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Measles ...	0.00	0.01	0.00	0.01	0.00
Rates per 1,000 Live Births					
Deaths under 1 year of age	43	46	37	41	52
Deaths from Diarrhoea and Enteritis under 2 years ...	4.4	6.1	2.8	4.2	0.00
Rates per 1,000 Civilian Population					
<b>Notifications:—</b>					
Typhoid Fever	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.00
Paratyphoid	0.02	0.02	0.01	0.01	0.00
Cerebro Spinal Fever ...	0.05	0.05	0.04	0.06	0.00
Scarlet Fever	1.38	1.51	1.33	1.42	1.29
Whooping Cough	2.28	2.48	2.05	2.22	0.00
Diphtheria ...	0.28	0.32	0.31	0.24	0.23
Erysipelas ...	0.22	0.25	0.22	0.27	0.00
Smallpox ...	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Measles ...	3.92	4.73	3.70	7.35	0.14
Pneumonia	0.89	1.02	0.74	0.75	0.86
Rates per 1,000 Total Births (Live and Still).					
<b>Notifications:—</b>					
Puerperal Fever	8.50	10.35	7.63	1.62	0.00
Puerperal Pyrexia				9.68	



**CAUSES OF DEATH in the DRONFIELD URBAN DISTRICT**  
during 1946.

	Male	Female
All causes ... ..	34	30
Typhoid and Parat. Fevers ... ..	0	0
Cerebro-spinal Fevers ... ..	0	0
Scarlet Fever ... ..	0	0
Whooping Cough ... ..	0	0
Diphtheria ... ..	0	0
Tuberculosis of respiratory system ... ..	1	1
Other forms of Tuberculosis ... ..	0	0
Syphilitic diseases ... ..	0	0
Influenza ... ..	1	1
Measles ... ..	0	0
Ac. Polio-myel. and Polio-enceph. ... ..	0	0
Ac. Inf. Enceph. ... ..	0	0
Cancer of Buc. Cav. and Oesoph (M) Uterus (F)	0	1
Cancer of Stomach and Duodenum ... ..	2	3
Cancer of Breast ... ..	0	0
Cancer of other sites ... ..	4	5
Diabetes ... ..	0	0
Intracranial Vascular Lesions ... ..	4	2
Heart disease ... ..	9	5
Other dis. of circulatory system ... ..	0	1
Bronchitis ... ..	4	3
Pneumonia ... ..	0	0
Other resp. dis. ... ..	0	0
Ulcer of Stomach or Duodenum... ..	1	0
Diarrhoea under 2 years ... ..	0	0
Appendicitis ... ..	0	0
Other Digestive diseases ... ..	0	1
Nephritis ... ..	1	2
Puer. and Post-Abortion Sepsis ... ..	0	0
Other Maternal causes ... ..	0	0
Premature Birth ... ..	1	0
Con. Mal. Birth Inj. Infant Dis. ... ..	2	4
Suicide ... ..	0	0
Road Traffic Accident ... ..	0	0
Other violent causes ... ..	1	0
All other causes ... ..	3	1

TABLE.

## TREATMENT CENTRE, POOLSBROOK.

Number of cases, 1,782.

Scabies—	Adults	5-15	under 5	Total
Chesterfield R.D.C. ...	471	209	112	792
Clay Cross U.D.C. ...	40	17	10	67
Clowne R.D.C. ...	146	72	40	258
Dronfield U.D.C. ...	9	3	2	14
Staveley U.D.C. ...	211	78	48	337
Totals	877	379	212	1468

## Head Lice—

Chesterfield R.D.C. ...	8(7)	96(84)	24(23)	128(114)
Clay Cross U.D.C. ...		4(4)		4(4)
Clowne R.D.C. ...	7(6)	26(22)	5(4)	38(32)
Dronfield U.D.C. ...		4(4)		4(4)
Staveley U.D.C. ...	5(4)	32(25)	3(3)	40(32)
Totals	200(17)	162(139)	32(30)	214(186)

Scabies with  
verminous heads

Chesterfield R.D.C. ...	25(21)	74(54)	22(14)	121(89)
Clay Cross U.D.C. ...	6(3)	11(9)	1(1)	18(13)
Clowne R.D.C. ...	3(2)	18(14)	2(1)	23(17)
Dronfield U.D.C. ...				
Staveley U.D.C. ...	5(3)	17(13)	1(1)	23(17)
Totals	39(29)	120(90)	26(17)	185(136)

Add 59 cases diagnosis NOT confirmed.

30 „ miscellaneous.

2 „ Ped. Corporis (Chesterfield, adults).

9 „ „ Pubis. (5 Chesterfield, 1 Clowne, 3 Staveley,—  
all adults).

100

## TREATMENT CENTRE, POOLSBROOK.

During 1946 1782 people attended the centre. 1468 cases of scabies were treated, 214 cases of verminous heads and 100 cases were examined not falling into either of the above categories.

The figures are lower than for the previous year. Scabies show a drop of 286 cases and 120 fewer cases were treated for verminous heads. The latter figure would be very gratifying if one could assume from it that it indicated there were fewer people suffering from head infestation, but I do not feel this is the case. It may be that fewer cases have been discovered and sent for treatment. The assumption that there is no real decrease tends to be borne out by the fact that on examination of cases sent up for scabies treatment there is an increased percentage of persons with infested heads. This applies to all age groups.

The following table shows the comparison between the two years.

Percentage of cases sent as scabies and found to have verminous heads.

	1945 Percentage	1946 Percentage
All ages	10.8	12.5
Adults	3.6	4.4
Age 5-15	23.4	31.7
Age under 5	12	12.2

It will be noted that the biggest increase is in the age group 5-15. It is very difficult to account for this increase and to give any feasible explanation. One can make many conjectures but none seem really to fit. It is obvious, however, that there must be a large number of the age group 5-15 infested even if allowances are made, and it can be accepted that the group sent for scabies treatment does not represent a fair cross section of the population.

If the percentage is cut by 50% there still remains 15% of the 5-15 age group infested, which is far too high a figure.

## WATER SUPPLIES.

The supply has been ample for 1946. Certain samples from time to time have been reported as not satisfactory.

All reports are passed on to the Engineer of the Joint Water Committee for necessary action.

North East Derbyshire Joint Water Committee	Total Samples.	Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory
	361	285	76